

WASHINGTON, D. C.

NEBRASKA MEETINGS.

LIBERATION, WISCONSIN.

The citizens of Lisbon and vicinity met on Wednesday, 29th inst., at 7 o'clock P. M., to consider the "Nebraska bill" and organized by choosing S. P. Fetter, Esq., Chairman, and C. B. Smith, Secretary.

On motion, the Chairman appointed R. Blount, Levi Russell, and G. Cairncross, a Committee on Resolutions.

After a short absence, the Committee presented the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted by the meeting:

[Among the resolutions were the following—*Ed. Era.*]

Resolved, That we solemnly protest against the Nebraska bill, pending in the House of Representatives, as being a gross and palpable violation of good faith between the North and the South on the subject of Slavery; and as such, if enacted, will render obnoxious to the righteous judgments of Heaven.

Resolved, That the Fugitive Slave Law is rendered doubly obnoxious by the introduction of the Nebraska bill, which abhors said law for its iniquity, and holds ourselves under no moral obligation to obey its injunctions, but will do all in our power to effect its repeal and render it inoperative.

SCOTT, NEW YORK.

Scott, March 21, 1854.—At a meeting of the inhabitants of Scott, without respect to party, the following resolutions were adopted, discussed, and unanimously adopted: whereupon, it was voted to send them for publication to the *Cortland County Whig*, the *Cortland Democrat*, and the *New York Times*.

The meeting was addressed one, and if the Representatives of the people in Congress feel as much opposition to the Nebraska bill as was manifested at this meeting, Slavery will never be established in this State, 30 min.

[We insert a few of the resolutions.]

Resolved, That it is the duty of every lover of Freedom to raise his voice in solemn protest against the violation of our constitutional rights, and to be made in defense of every principle of right and justice, as exhibited in Douglas's infamous Nebraska bill, passed by the Senate of the United States on the 24th inst., and that we will exert every influence and ability to this measure as far as our influence extends.

Resolved, That, as the free and independent citizens of New York, we demand of our rights, and our duty to remonstrate especially against that portion of the said bill which abrogates the Missouri Compromise of 1820, securing free territory against the introduction of Slavery north of the 36° 30' line.

Resolved, That as the said compact of 1820 conserved 455,000 square miles to Freedom, we will resist every attempt to divert it from its sacred purpose by appropriating it to Slavery.

WATKINS COUNTY, WISCONSIN.

Meeting in District No. 9, in the town of Peasauk, Watkinson county, Wisconsin.—Pursuant to previous notice, the citizens of said district convened at the house of one of the citizens of the town of March, to express to their sentiments in reference to the extension of Slavery into territory now free.

On motion, Benjamin Rhodes was called to the chair, and W. A. Griswold elected Secretary of the meeting.

A committee was chosen to draft resolutions, which reported the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

The resolutions severally denounce Mr. Douglas and his bill, and close as follows:

Resolved, That we condemn to the favorable consideration of the Legislature of this State, our faithful sentiments in the Senate and House of Representatives, that have labored and assented to prevent the passage of the bill, and have so timely and faithfully warned the people of the impending danger.

Resolved, That the foregoing preamble and resolutions be signed by the President and Secretary, and forwarded to the editors of the *Democrat* and *Register* of New York.

BENJAMIN RHODES, President.

A. W. GRISWOLD, Secretary.

ARMINGTON, ILLINOIS.

Armington, March 27, 1854.—At a meeting held by the citizens of Little's Grove, on the 22d, in relation to the passage of the Nebraska bill by the Senate, also holding was chosen Chairman, a committee of three were appointed to draft resolutions. Moved and seconded that Dr. J. Matthews, Daniel Albright, and James Palmer, be the committee.

After an interesting debate, in which Whigs, Democrats, and Free-Soilers, took part, several resolutions were unanimously adopted; among them the following:

Resolved, That we look with regret at the late sale of the North to the South, in the passage of the Nebraska and Kansas bills in the Senate, and most respectfully solicit the House of Representatives to rescind the same.

Resolved, That the action of our Senators in Congress, in voting for the nefarious Nebraska bill, meets with our unqualified disapprobation; and that we, as voters, will never support a Government, which has given it.

Resolved, That the action of Houston of Texas, and Bell of Tennessee, in opposing the Nebraska bill, is worthy of our admiration.

Resolved, That the action of the House of Representatives, in passing the Nebraska bill, is worthy of our admiration.

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CONGRESS.

THIRTY-THIRD CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION.

Senate, Tuesday, April 18, 1854.

Mr. Everett presented the memorial of the American Statistical Association, praying that he be furnished with copies of all documents published by order of Congress.

Mr. Sumner presented remonstrances from Windsor county, Vermont, against any payment by Congress for the initial cost of the Cooper presented three remonstrances, and the proceedings of two public meetings of citizens of the State of Pennsylvania, against the repeal of the Missouri Compromise.

Mr. Jones, of Iowa, submitted a resolution directing an inquiry as to the expediency of establishing a marine hospital at Dubuque, Iowa.

Mr. D-ake reported a bill for the relief of the Burlington University, Iowa; and the same was considered and passed.

Mr. Case. It affords me much pleasure to present a petition from a number of American citizens of the Hebrew faith, who desire to unite with their Christian fellow-citizens in asking the intervention of the Government to secure to all our countrymen broad rights of religious freedom. This Union, in order to promote the accomplishment of this great object, is a happy illustration of the spirit of equality and toleration, which marks our institutions. Persecuted for centuries with bitter hostility, subjected to a tyranny both civil and religious, more oppressive than that endured by any other people, their freedom from the promised land granted their forefathers, and their existence in this land of freedom, is a perpetual miracle, establishing the truth of their history as well as of our religion, foretold as it was in the earliest period, and which has been the subject of our religious migrations they have at length reached a continent, unknown to the patriarchs, by whose rivers they may sit down without jeopardy, to change their language, and where the law secures equal rights to all, be they Jew or Gentile. Exposed as the members of this persecuted yet are in portions of Europe and Asia, to the same persecutions, and the same illiberal prejudices and to religious disabilities, the position of our citizens abroad, who belong to it, has peculiar claims to the consideration and interposition of the Government, to secure to them equal protection, there is no portion of our population whose peaceful and law-abiding conduct better proves than those that they are well acquainted with the principles of our American by our system of government.

I repeat, sir, I am gratified that they are taking part in this great movement; and I am confident that the well-considered and patriotic citizens sent by the accidents of life to foreign countries, may receive the benefit of it. I move the reference of the memorial to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

On motion by Mr. Walker, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill from the House of Representatives, called the Homestead bill.

Mr. Pettit read a brief statement of the reasons which would induce him to support the bill.

It was then postponed till to-morrow.

On motion by Mr. Evans, the Senate took up the bill to settle the claims of the officers of the Revolutionary army; and after some debate thereon, it was postponed till Wednesday next.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of Executive business.

House of Representatives, April 18, 1854.

The Chief Clerk read the following bill for consideration on motion made yesterday by Mr. Jones, of Tennessee, to reconsider the vote ordering it to be engrossed for a third reading.

Mr. Jones expressed his desire to accept the amendment Mr. Jones wished to propose, namely, to insert a proviso limiting the increased compensation of clerks to the present year.

The Speaker said this could only be done by unanimous consent.

Mr. Clingman, having determined to oppose the bill, he moved to reconsider the bill Mr. Jones's amendment was then proposed.

Mr. Cobb moved to strike out the clause requiring every appointment to be made from grade next below that in which the vacancy occurred.

Mr. Robbins expressed his acquiescence in this amendment.

Mr. Sage of New York, stated that the clerk of the House had broken down, and he desired to increase of compensation, and were equally content to it with those of Washington. He wished to propose an amendment to that effect.

Mr. Phillips moved to amend Mr. Cobb's motion. He contended that a new principle in civil affairs was proposed to be introduced, that of instituting the military mode of promotion. He thought, also, the custom-house clerks, who were to be promoted, were to receive the compensation of clerks; and concluded by moving that the bill be referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Clingman, having called for the previous question on the motion to refer, the bill was referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Wheeler, of New York, moved to lay the bill on the table; which motion did not prevail.

The question was then taken on the motion to refer the bill to the Committee of the Whole; which was decided in the negative—yes 59, nays 87.

The question on Mr. Jones's motion relating to promotions then coming up, Mr. Cobb demanded the previous question, which was decided in the negative—yes 59, nays 87.

Mr. Pratt moved to lay the bill on the table, and called for the yeas and nays on his motion. Decided in the negative—yes 58, nays 84.

The bill was then read a third time.

Mr. Robbins moved to reconsider the vote last taken, and to lay the motion on the table.

Mr. Pratt called for the yeas and nays on the motion to lay the bill on the table; which was decided in the negative—yes 58, nays 84.

Mr. Richardson, by consent, offered a resolution authorizing the Committee on Territories to report an additional clerk for thirty days.

Mr. Grey asked leave to offer a resolution, which was read for information. It called upon the Postmaster General to inform the House why certain contracts had not been made.

Mr. Phelps objected to the reception of this resolution, and it was accordingly not entered.

Mr. Harris, of Alabama, called for the regular order of business.

Mr. Grey resumed and concluded his resolution in opposition to the intention of the resolution.

Mr. Harris, of Alabama, arose and said that he was reluctant to obtrude upon the House, but a sense of duty impelled him to do so. He proceeded to defend the claims in the case, and, incidentally, the Post Office Department also.

Messrs. Cobb, of Alabama, and Jones, of Louisiana, then arose, and the reasoning which served as unfavorable to the resolution, spoke briefly in its support.

Mr. Seward moved to lay the resolution on the table; which motion did not prevail.

The resolution was finally adopted—yes 82, nays 54.

Mr. Smith, of Virginia, asked the unanimous consent of the House to present the memorial of one hundred and twenty-four citizens of the District of Columbia and Alexandria, against the supervision of civil works by military officers; but objection was made.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the memorial of the citizens of the State of Ohio, against the passage of the Nebraska bill.

Mr. Cooper presented twelve remonstrances from citizens of Pennsylvania, against the passage of said bill.

Mr. Seward, from the Committee on Commerce, reported a bill to prevent unnecessary delays in the unloading or discharging of cargoes of vessels arriving from foreign ports, in vessels propelled in whole or in part by steam. And he having explained the said bill, it was considered and passed.

Mr. Cooper presented several remonstrances from Pennsylvania, against any change in the duties upon iron.

The Senate bill increasing the salaries of the clerks in the several Executive Departments was received from the House of Representatives, with two amendments. The bill was read, and the amendments of the House were concurred in.

On motion by Mr. Everett, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill to compensate the discoverer of practical anaesthesia.

THE NEBRASKA BILL—NO. 2.

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OBJECTION—THE NEBRASKA BILL.

Amidst all the "noises and confusion" which have been stirred up, evidently in order to keep this great question of Freedom by decision by unreason, I have seen but one attempt at a logical argument, or indeed any argument, on this point of constitutional power; and that I think we should never have had, if it had not been elicited from a distinguished Senator long ago, and which I now reproduce.

The bill was the subject of a long and elaborate speech by the late Senator from the State of New York, in which he alluded to the celebrated "Nicholson letter" of Mr. Case.

His argument is based on the assumption that the People of the United States, and the General Government, their instrument, have no power over their Territories, except what is specified in the Constitution of the United States; that is, that the same principle as is applied to the Territories, is applicable to the Government of the United States in respect to the several States, "is applicable to the same Government in respect to the Territories—a fundamental error."

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